UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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LEE & HAYES PLLC
421 W RIVERSIDE AVENUE SUITE 500
SPOKANE, WA 99201

EXAMINER
DAILEY, THOMAS J

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/720,034	BATTLE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thomas J. Dailey	2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *21 November 2003*.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-33* is/are pending in the application.
    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-33* is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *11/21/2003*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-33 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly
> claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

4. Claim 8, recites, "One or more computer readable media ... cause the computer to implement the method as recited in claim 1." It is unclear what the applicant intends to claim, as the claim is a CRM claim, but depends from a method claim. If the applicant intends the claim to be an independent claim, it should be recited as such and not have references to other claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by
> another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent
> granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the
> applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section

351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-2, 6-12, 15, 20-26, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being

anticipated by Gazzetta et al (US Pub. No. 2004/0083297), hereafter "Gazzetta."

7. As to claim 1, Gazzetta discloses a method comprising:

    receiving a request to connect to a public instant message (IM) service

([0037], lines 4-8);

    determining that the request is from a user associated with a particular

domain ([0039], lines 2-6, service provider determines that the user is from a

specific authentication server that represents an enterprise IM network); and

    redirecting the request to an IM gateway server that is associated with the

domain ([0039], lines 7-17).

8. As to claim 9, Gazzetta discloses a method comprising:

    receiving a request to connect to a public instant message (IM) service

([0037], lines 4-8);

    determining that the request is being received from a client application

through an IM gateway server ([0039], lines 2-6);

    authenticating the IM gateway server; authenticating the client application

([0039], lines 4-8); and

establishing a connection between the public IM service and the client

application through the IM gateway server ([0041], lines 16-19).

9. As to claim 11, Gazzetta discloses a method comprising:

receiving at a gateway server, a public instant message (IM) service

connection request from a user ([0037], lines 4-8);

verifying that the user is authorized to access the gateway server ([0037],

lines 4-8);

modifying the public IM service connection request to include data that

identifies the gateway server ([0038], lines 5-12);

and forwarding the public IM service connection request to a public IM service

([0038], lines 5-12).

10. As to claim 15, Gazzetta discloses a system comprising:

a public instant message service configured to enable public instant message

communications between two or more users ([0036], lines 11-13); and

an enterprise-specific data log configured to store data associated with public

instant message communications directed to or from a user associated with a

particular enterprise ([0036], lines 11-13 and [0070], lines 1-3).

11. As to claim 30, Gazzetta discloses one or more computer-readable media

comprising computer- readable instructions which, when executed, cause a

computer system to:

receive a connection request directed to a public instant message service

([0039], lines 1-2);

determine whether the connection request is being received through an

instant message gateway server ([0038], lines 2-7); and

in an event that the connection request is being received through an instant

message gateway server:

authenticate an identity of the instant message gateway server ([0038],

lines 4-7);

authenticate an identity of a client application through which a user

submitted the connection request ([0039] ,lines 2-4); and

establish a connection with between the public instant message service

and the user through the instant message gateway server ([0041], lines 16-

19).

12. As to claim 2, Gazzetta discloses:

determining a domain associated with the user ID ([0039], lines 4-7); and

determining that requests for connections to the public IM service from users

associated with the domain are to be redirected ([0041], lines 16-19).

13. As to claim 6, Gazzetta discloses:

receiving another request to connect to the public IM service, the request

being from the user and including an identifier that indicates that the request is

being submitted from an IM gateway server that is associated with the domain

([0039], lines 1-7); and

establishing through the IM gateway server, a connection between the public

IM service and the user ([0039], lines 7-17).

14. As to claim 7, Gazzetta discloses:

receiving instant message communications from the user through the IM

gateway server ([0006], lines 1-7); and

transmitting instant message communications directed to the user to the IM

gateway server ([0070], lines 1-8).

15. As to claim 8, it is rejected by the same rationale set forth in claim 1's rejection.

16. As to claim 10, Gazzetta discloses:

receiving an IM communication directed to the client application ([0070], lines

1-8); and

transmitting the IM communication to the IM gateway server ([0070], lines 1-

8).

17. As to claim 12, Gazzetta discloses verifying that the user is authorized to participate in public IM communications ([0037], lines 4-8).

18. As to claim 20, Gazzetta discloses data log is implemented as a component of the public instant message service ([0070], lines 1-3 and [0006], lines 1-3).

19. As to claim 21, Gazzetta discloses data log is implemented as a component of an enterprise network that is separate from the public instant message service ([0070], lines 1-3 and [0006], lines 1-3).

20. As to claim 22, Gazzetta discloses the data log is implemented as a database ([0070], lines 1-3).

21. As to claim 23, Gazzetta discloses an enterprise instant message gateway server configured to manage public instant message conversations in which an enterprise user participates ([0006], lines 1-7).

22. As to claim 24, Gazzetta discloses the public instant message service is further configured to verify that the gateway server is a valid gateway server associated with an enterprise with which the user is associated ([0039], lines 1-7).

23. As to claim 25, Gazzetta discloses:

request a connection to the public instant message service on behalf of the

enterprise user ([0039], lines 1-4); and

route instant message conversation data between the public instant message

service and the enterprise user ([0006], lines 1-7).

24. As to claim 26, Gazzetta discloses the enterprise instant message gateway

server is further configured to generate a log of the instant message conversation

data ([0070], lines 1-3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

25. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

26. Claims 3-5, 16-19, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Gazetta as applied to claims 1, 15, and 30 above, and further

in view of Malik et al (US Pat. 7,016,978).

27. As to claim 3, Gazzetta discloses the invention substantially with regard to the

parent claim 1, but does not disclose determining a redirection address

associated with the domain, the redirection address being associated with the IM gateway server; and transmitting a transfer command to a client application from which the request was received, the transfer command indicating the redirection address to which the request is to be submitted.

However, Malik discloses determining a redirection address associated with the domain, the redirection address being associated with the IM gateway server (column 6, lines 22-26, the Local IM server will inherently have an address); and transmitting a transfer command to a client application from which the request was received, the transfer command indicating the redirection address to which the request is to be submitted (column 6, lines 34-42).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Gazzetta and Malik in order to have more efficient transfers of IM connection requests.

28. As to claim 4, Gazzetta and Malik disclose the invention substantially with regard to the parent claim 3, and further disclose where the redirection address comprises at least on of an IP address (Malik, column 9, lines 6-9).

29. As to claim 5, Gazzetta and Malik disclose the invention substantially with regard

to the parent claim 3, and further disclose the redirection address further

comprises a port number (Malik, inherent in column 9, lines 6-9).

30. As to claim 16, Gazzetta discloses the invention substantially with regard to the

parent claim 15, and further discloses:

(A) an instant message connect domain store configured to store domain

names that identify domains for which instant message service connection

requests are to be redirected ([0039], lines 1-7); and

(B) a dispatch server configured to:

(i) receive a connection request from a user through an instant message

client application ([0038], lines 1-12 and [0039], lines 1-2);

(ii) determine whether the connection request is being received from an

instant message gateway server ([0039], lines 1-7);

Gazzetta does not disclose:

in an event that the connection request is not being received from an instant

message gateway server, determine whether the connection request is from a

user associated with a domain identified in the instant message connect domain

store; and

in an event that the connection request is from a user associated with a

domain identified in the instant message connect domain store, issuing a transfer

command to the instant message client application, the transfer command including a redirection address.

Rather, Gazzetta system does not directly send user requests to the service provider, but they are sent via the authentication server.

However, Malik discloses when a connection request is determined to be from a user (column 6, lines 13-19), issuing a transfer command to the instant message application, the transfer command including a redirection address (column 6, lines 34-43).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Gazzetta and Malik in order to have more efficient transfers of IM connection requests and allow a greater variety of connection requests, i.e. those generated by users.

31. As to claim 17, Gazzetta and Malik disclose the invention substantially with regard to the parent claim 16, and further disclose the instant message connect domain store is configured to store at least one of an instant messaging ID/Key pair (Gazzetta, [0039], lines 1-7).

32. As to claim 18, Gazzetta and Malik disclose the invention substantially with regard to the parent claim 16, and further disclose a connection server configured to establish and maintain a connection between the instant message service system and the user through an instant message gateway server (Gazzetta, [0041], lines 16-22).

33. As to claim 19, Gazzetta and Malik disclose the invention substantially with regard to the parent claim 16, and further disclose a switchboard server configured to route instant message communication data received from and directed to the user (Gazzetta, Abstract).

34. As to claim 31, it is rejected by the same rationale that was set forth in claim 16's rejection.

35. Claim 13-14 and 27-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gazzetta as applied to claims 11 and 15, and further in view of what was well known in the art at the time of the invention.

36. As to claim 13, Gazzetta does not explicitly disclose the verifying comprises examining data stored in an enterprise policy and configuration data store.

However, Gazzetta does discloses the advantages of enterprise management

with regards to instant messaging ([0006], lines 1-7) and to one of ordinary skill in

the art at the time of the invention it would be obvious to store explicit policies in

order to manage the enterprise. Further, Gazzetta system allows communication

between the enterprise network and the public IM network it would have been

obvious to have policies that manage such interactions. Therefore, Official

Notice is taken (MPEP 2144.01) that implementing verification policies in order to

restrict access to the use of the enterprise IM system is an obvious modification

done in order to improve the security of the system.

37. As to claim 14, Gazzetta discloses establishing point-to-point communications,

enabled through the public IM service ([0021]).

But, Gazzetta does not explicitly disclose determining if the user is authorized

to participate in point-to-point communications (aside from a general verification

to use the system as a whole) and further if they are not authorized, altering the

connection request to indicate such.

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to make such modifications given the purpose of Gazzetta's

invention ([0006], lines 1-7) and what is known and practiced in the art, i.e.

restricting uses of resources in an enterprise network. Therefore, Official Notice

is taken (MPEP 2144.01) that explicitly preventing point-to-point communications

in order to improve security of the system is an obvious modification.

38. As to claims 27 and 28, Gazzetta does not explicitly disclose multiple gateway

servers, distributed across an enterprise network, where users are routed to the

nearest server in order to establish connections.

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to have multiple distributed IM authentication servers,

especially if the enterprise network was a large network, as this is a common

practice. Therefore, Official Notice is taken (MPEP 2144.01) that using a known

practice (distribution of servers in order to improve response times) is an obvious

modification of Gazette's system.

39. As to claim 29, it is rejected by the same rationale set forth in claim 13's

rejection.

40. Claims 32 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Gazzetta and Malik as applied to claims 31, and further in view of what was

well known in the art at the time of the invention.

41. As to claim 32, Gazzetta and Malik disclose the invention substantially with

regard to the parent claim 31, and but do not explicitly disclose denying

connection requests for users not associated with a domain and denying

connection requests for a user whose is associated with a unauthorized domain.

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to make such modifications to Gazzetta and Malik given the

purpose of Gazzetta's invention ([0006], lines 1-7) and what is practiced in the

art, i.e. denying connections from suspicious domains or users who have

undefined domains as they are security risks. Therefore, Official Notice is taken

(MPEP 2144.01) that using a known practice (denying suspicious connection

requests) is an obvious modification of Gazette's and Malik's system.

42. As to claim 33, Gazzetta and Malik disclose the invention substantially with

regard to the parent claim 32, and further disclose in an event that the user is not

associated with a domain for which connection requests are to be denied:

authenticate an identity of the client application through which the user

submitted the connection request (Gazzetta, [0037], lines 4-8); and

establish a connection between the user and the public instant message

service (Gazzetta, [0041], lines 16-19 and [0036], lines 11-13)9.
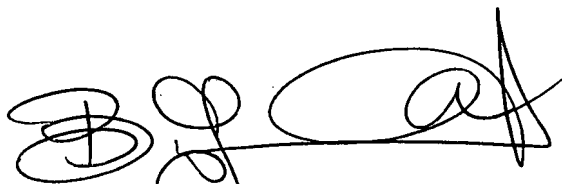
Conclusion

43. For additional prior art made of record and not relied upon and considered

    pertinent to applicant's disclosure see attached Notice of References Cited, Form

    PTO-892.

44. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

    examiner should be directed to Thomas J. Dailey whose telephone number is

    571-270-1246. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday;

    9:00am - 5:00pm.

45. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

    supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571-272-3913. The fax

    phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is

    assigned is 571-273-8300.

46. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

    Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

    published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

    Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR

    only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-

    direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

    system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-

    free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service

    Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-

    9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TJD
7/23/2007

BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

7/26/7